

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 3-55 without prejudice, and add new claims 56-67 as provided below. A complete listing of all claims and their current status is provided on separate sheets herein.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace drawing sheets 1-10 with Replacement Sheets 1-10 provided herein, which contain Figs. 1A-9G.

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for treating atrioventricular valve regurgitation, comprising:

a cutting ~~instrument~~ arrangement configured to sever at least one chord attaching an atrioventricular leaflet to a internal cardiac muscle; and

a positioning catheter configured to position the cutting instrument proximate the at least one chord; ; and _____

a grasping arrangement configured to at least partially constrain a movement of the at least one chord relative to the catheter,

wherein the catheter comprises an opening through which the cutting ~~instrument~~ arrangement can be provided to sever the at least one chord.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cutting instrument comprises a blade having a cutting edge ~~diameter~~ width that is approximately the same size as the a diameter of the at least one chord.

3-55 (Canceled)

56. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cutting arrangement is further configured to sever at least one chord while the grasping arrangement is at least partially constraining a movement of the at least one chord.

57. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the grasping arrangement comprises a grasping member configured to slide along a longitudinal direction relative to an extension axis of the catheter.

58. (New) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the grasping member comprises a wire.

59. (New) The apparatus of claim 58, wherein a distal end of the wire is curved.

60. (New) The apparatus of claim 58, wherein a distal end of the wire is configured at an acute angle relative to a surface of the opening.

61. (New) The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the wire comprises a shape-memory material.
62. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the grasping arrangement comprises at least one pincer member which is rotatably coupled to the catheter and which is configured to surround at least a portion of the at least one chord.
63. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the grasping arrangement comprises at least two pincer members which are rotatably coupled to the catheter and which are configured to surround at least a portion of the at least one chord.
64. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a stabilizing arrangement configured to at least partially constrain a motion of the catheter relative to a location within a chamber of a heart.
65. (New) The apparatus of claim 64, wherein the stabilizing arrangement comprises an extendable member which is configured to contact the location within the chamber.
66. (New) The apparatus of claim 65, wherein the stabilizing arrangement comprises a shape memory material.
67. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a second catheter configured to advance the positioning catheter toward the at least one chord.